

Teacher's an Excerpt from "Biographical Information"

1. Read closely the text below from the "Biographical Information" section of the Profiles in Science: The Charles R. Drew Papers website. *If needed, teachers may incorporate vocabulary work to help students' comprehension of the text.*

"Washington was still racially **segregated** during that era, but its large African American community included many **prosperous** and well-educated families, and their public schools were often excellent. Drew attended Stevens Elementary and then Dunbar High School, which was then one of the best college **preparatory** schools--for blacks or whites--in the country. Though bright, he was not an outstanding student; instead, he devoted much of his effort to athletics, where he excelled. Ambitious and competitive, he **lettered** in four sports, and won the James E. Walker Medal for all-round athletic performance in both his junior and senior years. He was voted "best athlete," "most popular student," and "student who has done the most for the school." He also served as captain of Company B in the Third **Regiment** of the High School Cadet Corps during his senior year. Drew did not express any early medical ambitions; his senior yearbook entry noted that he aspired to become an **electrical engineer**."

(Source: <http://profiles.nlm.nih.gov/ps/retrieve/Narrative/BG/p-nid/336>)

An excerpt (second paragraph) from "Biographical Information," Profiles in Science: The Charles R. Drew Papers. Courtesy National Library of Medicine

2. List at least three facts about Dr. Drew you learned from reading the excerpt text.

Students may point out that Dr Drew:

- and his family lived in Washington, DC
- went to Stevens Elementary School and Dunbar High School
- participated in four sports, and won the James E. Walker Medal in last two years of high school
- was recognized by his peers as the best athlete and most popular student who contributed much to the school
- was a captain of the Cadet Corps at his high school
- was interested in becoming an electrical engineer

3. What key accomplishment does the excerpt highlight about Dr. Drew?

The text highlights Dr. Drew as an outstanding athlete, while describing him as well-liked student with a career interest in electrical engineering rather than medicine.